

Board of Selectmen Meeting minutes
Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 7:30pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

Attendance: First Selectman Nina Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:30. In attendance was Selectman Chris Spaulding, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene and Weston Residents. Selectman Dennis Tracey participated via phone.

This meeting was videotaped and can be viewed on Channel 79 and on our Town of Weston website.

1- **Pledge** : Led by Chief Ed Henion.

2- Introduction of Police Chief Ed Henion

Ms. Daniel introduced new Police Chief, Ed Henion, who was sworn in on Sept 18th. Mr. Spaulding welcomed him as well, and reported that he's heard all the officers are very happy. Chief Henion stated he retired Sept 1st from the CT state police. He also stated he was a Resident Trooper in Redding, so he is familiar with the area and the concepts of small town policing. The Chief stated that he is available via email at ehenion@westonpolice.com and at [the Police Department](#) Monday through Ms. Daniel added that they are both on the Advisory Committee for the Drug Task Force. Chief Henion stated police involvement in preventative measures is more important than getting involved after the fact.

3- **Discussion/decision to accept a new scoreboard from Weston Little League** – Stephen Polizzi, WLL President and Stephen Jr. Mr. Polizzi stated the scoreboard is about 8-10 years old. Stephen Jr. explained what was wrong with the board. Mr. Polizzi said it has been repaired once or twice in the past but now the scoreboard companies said it wasn't worth fixing and needs to be replaced. He explained scoreboards should last 10-15 years. Mr. Luiz asked when he anticipates WLL will have all the funds. Mr. Polizzi stated that WLL has the funds they need but are looking for sponsors to advertise on the scoreboard. Mr. Polizzi asked about logistics and timing of when the sign could be installed. Ms. Tracy Kulikowski said he needs to contact the Building Dept. Mr. Tracey asked Mr. Luiz about insurance; Mr. Luiz responded that he would speak with Marty Burger about that.

Mr. Spaulding moved to have the Town of Weston accept a give of a scoreboard from Weston Little League. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4- **Discussion/decision about opting out of the provisions of Public Act 17-155, "An act concerning temporary healthcare structures."**

Land Use Director, Tracy Kulikowski and Planning & Zoning Commission member, Sally Korsch, explained this act concerns new legislation from the state that provides for a “by right” permit for a temporary, detached structure up to 500 square feet in size for individuals with defined health care needs. There would, however, be enforcement issues for Town staff. The law is well-intentioned and attempts to provide an expedited permit process. However, the Planning & Zoning Commission feels that its existing regulations which allow for accessory apartments in the main dwelling through a staff permit process, rather than a public hearing process, already provides a stream lined process. In addition, accessory apartments are not limited by the occupancy and caregiver restrictions, as well as the structure removal requirements required by PA 17-155.

Mr. Spaulding asked if we need to get a legal opinion, Ms. Kulikowski didn’t feel we did because she already reviewed the statute with the Town Attorney. Mr. Luiz said he also spoke to Town Attorney, Pat Sullivan, and she did not feel there were any issues. Ms. Korsh said the P&Z board voted to opt out, but they need the selectman’s approval. Mr. Tracey moved that the Town opt-out of the provisions of Public Act 17-155 and of Section 8-2(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended by the Act. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 5- **Discussion/decision about draft guidelines for Building Committee Involvement with School Construction Projects** Board of Education, Chair of Facilities Committee, Elise Major stated the BOE wants to put in writing what the process should be. She said they need a set of guidelines, not an MOU. Ms. Major said the draft has been approved by the Facilities Committee and by the BOE. Ms. Major explained that according to the guidelines, all projects would go through the Capital Committee. If it’s a 10,000 threshold it would automaticity goes through the capital committee. If its \$20,000 the capital committee then decides whether the Building Committee needs to supervise. Mr. Tracey asked if the Building Committee reviewed this draft to which Ms. Major replied, not yet. Mr. Luiz said he will send it to the Building Committee for review after the Selectman has viewed. No motion was made.

6- **Discussion/decision about subleasing a portion of Lachat Farm to the Friends of Lachat**

Ms. Carol Baldwin, member of the Lachat Town Farm Commission, presented the draft Stewardship agreement. Mr. Luiz stated he had sent this to the town attorney but edits haven’t been made yet. Mr. Luiz explained that a sublease for the property to the Friends of Lachat would be a good idea, so that the Town is not responsible for managing it. Details of the agreement were discussed.

Mr. Tracey reminded us that this is a town property and that it was deeded to the town by Mr. Lachat, who was extremely generous. The town was unable to make any use of this property for over a decade until Lachat came along and created a beautiful destination. Mr. Tracey said they did this without any large amount of money from the town. Mr. Tracey thanked them and said he feels this agreement is the right structure.

No motion made.

- 7- Property Tax Refunds** Mr. Tracey moved to approve property tax refunds totaling \$6,483.66 as presented (see attached). Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8- First Selectman Updates

- a. New committee SMIC is now recruiting members.
- b. Ms. Daniel discussed the CT DOT presentation on the future Rt. 57 road project. The project involves the culvert on the south side of Broad St and Goodhill Road. Work will start in 2020 – proposal is to have it done in one session, closing the road for 2 weeks.
- c. Steephill Renewables Lawsuit is settled.. no new major lawsuits in past two years.
- d. Discussion regarding virtual net metering which involves purchasing electricity via a solar farm

- 9- Minutes: October 4th and 13th** Mr. Spaulding moved to approve the unapproved Board of Selectmen minutes of October 4, 2017 and October 13, 2017, as presented. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 10- Mr. Tracy moved to add an agenda item:** Discussion and possible decision of the process of appointment of Town Council. Ms. Daniel seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Tracey stated that Town Council has a 2 year appointment under the Town Charter. He stated in the past, the legal review committee has recommended we go through an RFP process. Mr. Tracey thinks it's a good procedure. No motion necessary, Mr. Tracey stated he just wanted to start discussion with the board.

11- Executive Session to discuss strategies and negotiations about the following pending claims or pending litigation:

- a. Governor Malloy's proposed teacher pension cost shift to Town of Weston

Mr. Spaulding moved to enter into executive session at 9:00pm, inviting Board of Finance members Allan Grauberd, Bob Ferguson, Melissa Koller. Ms. Daniel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session ended at 9:26 pm.

Selectman Spaulding MOVED and Selectman Tracey seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously at 9:27 pm.

Minutes taken by Administrative Assistant, Randi Derene

Approved: December 4, 2017